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April 13, 2006

## VIA HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Office of Proceedings  
APR 13 2006  
Part of  
Public Record



Re: STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 254X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company –  
Petition for Exemption – Discontinuance of Service – Between Halls Ferry  
Junction, NC and Badin, NC, in Stanly County, North Carolina; et al.

Dear Secretary Williams:

We are counsel for Alcoa, Inc. ("Alcoa"), the only shipper on the Lines at issue in the above-referenced proceedings. We received a facsimile yesterday, dated April 12, 2006, from counsel for Petitioners stating that Petitioners will file a revised Petition correcting the Petition filed on March 30, 2006 and requesting a delay in the publication of notice in the Federal Register commensurate with the date of filing of the revised Petition.

Alcoa intends to participate actively in this proceeding. Alcoa does not oppose Petitioners' filing of the revised Petition and request for a delay in Federal Register publication of the notice commensurate with the date Petitioners' file the revised Petition. If Federal Register publication cannot be delayed, Alcoa hereby requests that the same outcome occur as would have occurred had Federal Register publication been delayed — *i.e.*, that the deadline for Alcoa's Reply to the Petition be postponed commensurate with the number of days passing from the date

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of filing of the original Petition (March 30, 2006) and the revised Petition. We have discussed this matter with Mr. Paschall, counsel for Petitioners, and Petitioners have no objection to this request.

Respectfully submitted,



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cc:

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Director – Rail Division  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
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Ms. JoAnne Sanford, Chair  
North Carolina Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 29510  
Raleigh, NC 27626

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United States Department of Defense  
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Transportation Engineering Agency  
Railroads for National Defense Program  
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